



Environmental Hazards Geospatial Data Content Standard

Facilities Working Group
Federal Geographic Data Committee

draft

June 1997

Federal Geographic Data Committee

Established by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-16, the Federal Geographic Data Committee promotes the coordinated development, use, sharing, and dissemination of geographic data.

The FGDC is composed of representatives from the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, State, and Transportation; the Environmental Protection Agency; the Library of Congress; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; the National Archives and Records Administration; and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Other Federal agencies participate on FGDC subcommittees and working groups. The Department of the Interior is the lead agency for the FGDC.

FGDC subcommittees work on issues related to data categories coordinated under the committee; establish and implement standards for data content, quality, and transfer; encourage the transfer of data; and organize the collection of geographic data to reduce duplication. Policy statements are established for issues that transcend data categories.

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Part One: Introduction

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 OBJECTIVES

To develop a nationally focused Environmental Hazards Geospatial Data Content Standard (Environmental Hazards Standard) that will establish a consistent approach to sharing information on hazardous substances, materials, and conditions that are, or have the potential to be, detrimental to the earth. The Environmental Hazards Standard will not include the standardization of a pilot implementation schema but it will be available for those interested.

1.2 GOAL

1. To compile common definitions for environmental hazard data that will facilitate understanding, and automation of geospatial information.
2. To standardize entities, attributes, and domain values that will improve the creation and sharing of environmental hazard data.
3. To resolve discrepancies related to the use of similar terms, thereby minimizing confusion.

1.3 SCOPE

The environmental hazards standard will address data concerning the evaluation and monitoring of environmental hazards, the presence of hazards, preparedness and protection from the effects of their effects. This standard will include the management of information on hazardous substances, hazardous materials, and physical conditions that affect the earth's ecosystem (both surface water and ground water.) This standard will not address natural events (e.g., earthquakes.)

1.4 JUSTIFICATION / BENEFITS

There is no national geospatial data content standard for environmental hazards. A standard supporting the study, management, and remediation of environmental hazards materials managers, solid waste engineers, and public works officers. Benefits would be realized in situations, when efficient management and data sharing between federal and local agencies hazardous materials and protecting the environment.

Development of Environmental Hazard Standards through the FGDC will provide an opportunity for participation from national, state, and local governments, municipalities, professionals, and Environmental Hazard Standards will also support the FGDC's integrated standard data sharing opportunities for the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) (i.e., government, as well as the private sector.)

1.5 APPLICABILITY

1.6 STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

This standard was developed by the Environmental Hazards project team under the Working Group. Much of the environmental hazard information contained in this standard was developed by the Environmental Hazards project team.

The Environmental Hazards project team had participants from Federal agencies, professional organizations, and private industry. Specifically the following organizations were significant in the development of this standard:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
American Public Works Association
Environmental Protection Agency
Applied Geographic, Inc.

Editors Note: Additional names of organizations that are represented on the project

significant contributing organizations to this standard shall be added to this list.****

1.7 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER STANDARDS

~~Information contained in the ES&D Environmental Hazards Standard closely parallels~~

~~EPA CRLS Registry June 26, 1987 Identification of Chemical Substances Service Registry~~

~~ANSI X3.50-1986, American National Standard for information systems --representation and other units to be used in systems with limited character sets.~~

~~NIST Special Publication 811, 1995 Edition, Guide for the Use of the International standardizing units of measure.~~

Related Documents: (Editor's Note * Lois can you get me full information on these documents probably be moved to Reference section ***)

AR 200-1 Army Environmental Reference (Feb 1997 update) Environmental Protection

AR 385-69

CFR 32-626/627

AR 50-6

EPA - CFR 40

ASTM

Cerclis

1.8 MAINTENANCE

The Department of Defense, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintains the Environment for the Federal Geographic Data Committee with support from the Tri-Service CADD / general questions concerning this standard should be addressed to:

U .S .A r m y Corps of Engineers
G eneral Engineering Branch
20 M assachusetts Avenue, NW
W ashington, DC 20314-1000

All technical question pertaining to this standard should be directed to :

Tri-Service CADD /GIS Technology Center
ATTN : CEW ES-IM -DA
3909 Halls Ferry Road
Vicksburg, MS 39180-6199

2. PARTS OF THE STANDARD

The Environmental Hazards Standard addresses three application areas 1) pollution operations/management of hazardous site, and 3) facility emergency preparedness. The parts. The Introduction, Part I of the Environmental Hazards Standard, defines the purpose followed during its development, the organization(s) involved in its development and its relationship to other standards. Part II contains a comprehensive Entity Types report which lists the type names and definitions, the object type, and their associated entity class and attributes. Part III contains a comprehensive Attributes report which contains a complete listing of attributes tables and hazards entity types and each attributes names, definitions, data type, character length. Part IV contains a comprehensive Domains report which contains a complete listing of definitions associated with environmental hazards attributes and lists the values for each attribute value.)

Part I	Introduction
Part II	Environmental Hazards Entity Types
Part III	Environmental Hazards Attributes
Part IV	Environmental Hazards Domains
Annex A	Environmental Hazards Entity Relationship Model

3. ENTITY TYPE, ATTRIBUTE, DOMAIN LOGICAL DATA MODEL

A agreement on a common format is not sufficient to ensure that the geospatial information is understood by both the sender and the receiver. In order to share spatial data (and as part of a SDTS common data model must be defined and used. In addition, semantic content of a spatial object (associated attribute and attribute value information) must be well defined and agreed upon and specified in either an off-line document (i.e. data content standard and/or in the metadata of the SDTS) is a formal attempt to develop a standardized list of entities. Additional organizations that want to share geospatial information are developing data content standards modeled after the SDTS.

This Environmental Hazards Standard is based upon the SDTS geospatial data model of that standard. The SDTS data model depicts the real world as consisting of entities (objects) and their relationships.

are assigned attribute values. The Environmental Hazard Standard defines environmental attributes and specifies the domain (range or list) of attribute values. In addition, this standard includes additional extensions to the SDTS data model including the concept of grouping environmental components (entities) into entity classes and linking specific attributes to specific entities.

4. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Environmental Hazards Standard, the following definitions apply:

1.1 **entity class** - logical group of related entity types (e.g., grouping of water system components: water_hydrant, water_line, water_pump, water_reservoir, water_tank, ... into an entity class).

1.2 **entity type** - definition and description of a set (class of real world phenomena) into which are classified (e.g., water_reservoir).

1.3 **entity instance** - real-world spatial phenomenon about which data is collected, mainly in the Millan Water Reservoir. Entity instances are the geospatial objects that are in the database.

1.4 **attribute** - a defined characteristic of an entity type (e.g., an attribute of electrical cable material).

1.5 **domain** - a finite list (or range) of permissible values for a specified attribute. Includes measurement, types, styles, status, names, methods, materials, dispositions, sources, dimensions. Example: electrical cable material - Al, Fe, Pb, steel, Cu, ...).

1.6 **attribute value** - a specific quality or quantity assigned to an attribute for a specific entity instance. Example: cable material = Cu).

1.7 **IDEF modeling** - Integrated Definition (IDEF) is the name given to a family of modeling techniques. The IDEF0 and IDEF1x are the best known of these techniques. IDEF0 is used to model business processes or activities for reengineering a function. IDEF1x techniques are used to create a logical data model.

1.8 **geospatial data** - data with implicit or explicit reference to a location relative to the earth.

1.9 **Data Content Standard** - provides the semantic definitions for a set of real world phenomena of significance to a community. Data Content Standards may be organized and presented in a variety of ways such as an entity-relationship model or an IDEF1x model.

1.10 **Environmental Hazards** - natural and manmade substances, materials, and conditions that have the potential to be detrimental to life and ecosystems on the earth.

5. REFERENCES

Tri-Service CADD/GIS Technology Center (1996) "Tri-Service Spatial Data Standards

Spatial Data Transfer Standard

Editors Note: Are there other references that should be listed here?